

TELANGANA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
SESSION : III – MEETING - II

Starred LCQ No. 914

Notice given by:

Sri Paturi Sudhakar Reddy, MLC
Dr. Madireddy Sreenivas Reddy, MLC
Sri D. Rajeshwar Rao, MLC

Will the Minister for Medical & Health be pleased to state:

- a. Whether it is a fact that fruit traders are using Calcium Carbide for ripening the fruits; and
- b. If so, the measures being taken to prevent the same?

HEALTH, MEDICAL & FAMILY WELFARE (C2) DEPARTMENT

ANSWER

- a. Yes Sir,
- b. Food Safety Department has taken steps for inspection and filing case against defaulters under the provisions of Food Standard Safety Act.

(The above answer has been approved by the Hon'ble Minister for Health, Medical and Family Welfare)

for PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
The Secretary, to State Legislature (Council Questions) Department,
Council Buildings, Hyderabad.

Copy to:

The P.S. to Spl. Secy to C.M.
The OSD to Minister (M&H)
The General Administration (L&C) Dept.
The P.S. to Prl. Secy. to Govt., Consumer Affairs, Food and Civil Supplies
Department, TS Secretariat
The P.S. to Prl. Secy., to Govt., HM&FW Dept.
The HM & FW (F) Dept.
Sf/Sc.

HM&FW (C2) Dept., U.O. Note No.9445/C2/15, Dated: 30/09/2015

**NOTE FOR SUPPLEMENTARIES TO THE STARRED LCQ NO. 914,
GIVEN NOTICE OF BY SRI PATURI SUDHAKAR REDDY, MLC;
DR. MADIREDDY SREENIVAS REDDY, MLC AND SRI D. RAJESHWAR
RAO, MLC**

As per 2.3.5 of Food Safety (Prohibition & Restriction on sale) Regulations 2011 use of calcium carbide for ripening of fruits is prohibited. Samples of fruits altogether (49) were collected in three spells in the month of August and September, 2015 from fruit Markets in Hyderabad and other districts in the State for analysis under the Provisions of Food Safety and Standards Act 2006.

As per analysis reports all the 49 fruit samples were found violating the regulations 2.3.5 of FSS Regulation 2011 as they contain calcium Carbide and declared UNSAFE.

In 14 cases of fruit samples which were collected in the first spell (14-8-2015), orders were issued u/s 30(2) (e) of FSS Act 2006 for launching prosecution before the First Metropolitan Magistrate Court, Chudi Bazar, Hyderabad against Food Business Operators for selling fruits in violation of the Regulation of 2.3.5 of Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition & Restriction on sale) Regulations 2011.

In remaining 34 cases of fruit samples which were collected subsequently (28-8-2015) prosecution will be initiated duly following the mandatory procedure as laid down under the FSS Act.

Government has issued orders vide G.O.Rt.No.288, Dated: 19/03/2012. Agriculture & Co-operation (AM-IV) Department wherein, a District Level Committee has been constituted with the following members to oversee the usage of Calcium Carbide for early ripening of fruits:

1.	Joint Collector	-	Chairman
2.	Gazetted Food Inspector belonging to Medical & Health Dept. in each District	-	Member Convenor
3.	Asst. Director of Marketing	-	Member
4.	Commissioner of Municipality / Municipal		Member
5.	Corporation / Medical and Health Officers Located within the district	-	Member
6.	District Panchayat Officer	-	Member

7.	Assistant / Dy. Director of Horticulture Dept	-	Member
8.	Regional Transport Officer of the District	-	Member

Instructions have been issued to all the enforcement staff of FSS Act in the state for effective enforcement of regulation 2.3.5 of Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition & Restriction on sale) Regulations 2011 vide Circular **Rc. No. 674/FSS-1/2015 dated: 23-09-2015**

- Create awareness through posters about harmful effect due to consumption of fruits artificially ripened with Calcium Carbide and legal/penal provisions for violation of 2.3.5 of Food Safety (Prohibition & Restriction on sale) Regulations 2011.
- issue notices to FBOs including Malls in which fruits being sold if any to display sign Board conspicuously informing consumer that **"fruits exhibited here for sale are not artificially ripened by using Calcium Carbide "**
- Inspect and Collect at least Two (2) fruit samples per month until further orders from major Fruit FBOs in the State for analysis under the provisions of FSS Act.
- Organize the Meetings of the District Level Committee formed for the purpose vides G.O. Rt No. 288 dated 19-03-2012.

SURESH CHANDA
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

